

Social Service Human Relations Board

Minutes of the Regular Meeting, Thursday, September 24, 2009

1. **CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL**, President Wasiko called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. Present were Villareal, Soglin, and Biggs. Absent were Nielsen, and James. Staff: Franz

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Minutes of August 27, 2009 meeting were continued to the October 22nd meeting due to lack of quorum.

3-A. **PRESENTATION OF ALTERNATIVES IN ACTION (AIA) SERVICES --**
DAWN HUMPHREY - ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS AND
JANE SPERLING WISE – DIRECTOR OF FUND & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Jane Sperling-Wise thanked board for the invitation to make a presentation and explained that AIA helps young people with leadership potential prepare for college, career, and community. She also thanked the City for providing the CDBG funds that allowed AIA to create a Transitions Center, which has helped 120 young people develop crucial 21st Century skills. She then introduced AIA students Aaron McNamara and Cianna Presco to describe their participation in AIA programs.

Aaron described his leadership role in AIA after-school Sound Recording Studio Program and AIA's core values: Respect Risk, rigor, Real, Responsibility, Relationship, and Resiliency. Cianna told us about AIA's Summer Leadership Program called Test Your Greatness, and student's Presentations of Greatness, 2 to 5 minute creative showcases that told the story of their personal growth during the 5-week program. She then introduced a video of some of the student's Presentations of Greatness.

After the video, Dawn Humphrey shared information regarding some of the afterschool programs AIA is offering on Alameda's West End at the Woodstock Educational Campus and Encinal High School including: Introduction to Child Development, Sound Engineering, Expression Visual Arts, Video Production, a Dance Class, Drama Class, and a Learning Lab. Students taking these classes can also earn Peralta College Credits and Community Service hours. Dawn provided copies of AIA's Fall After School Course Offerings, a transcript of the student's presentations, and a copy of the Presentations of Greatness Video.

Responses to board member questions informed us that:

- The after school programs are available to all Alameda High School students, and students produce 2 hip-hop forums each year.
- AIA's Transition Center, College & Job Exploration program, and a fraction of their after school programs are supported by their \$18,250 CDBG grant.
- AIA administers two off island after school collaboratives, one at Life Academy and the other at the former McClymond's High School site.

Jane Sperling-Wise stressed the importance of the CDBG funding, especially in light of Foundation and other funding sources becoming less reliable. If they were to receive more CDBG funds, they would be able to add or expand their programs.

President Wasko thanked AIA staff and students for their presentation and video

3-B. **REQUEST FOR SSHRB TO CO-SPONSOR, WITH THE ALAMEDA MULTI-CULTURAL CENTER, THE SCREENING OF TWO FILMS IN OCTOBER**

Member Villareal explained that the request is for SSHRB, via its workgroup ATAH, to be a co-sponsor the October screening of two films that focus on the LGBT community. Over the summer, the Alameda Multi-Cultural Community Center (AMCCC), sponsor of the October event, has screened a movie on the Muslim Community and "Taking Back the Schools", a film focusing on the Latino community. Community Alliance Resource for Education (CARE) is also a co-sponsor of the screening. He then introduced Zoe Holder, Executive Director of the ACMCC.

Holder: She welcomed Member Villareal's request for SSHRB to co-sponsor the October screening, and shared that the AMCC had a co-sponsor for their first screening of a film about Japanese American Internment related to the experience of a group of Palestinians after the 9/11 attack. Their November screening will be Native American focused, and monthly screenings will continue through May. The October 16 event will feature a 60-minute film, "Anyone and Everyone" and an 8-minute film "Traditional Indigenous Values". The first presents stories of families from various cultures and faiths with a son or daughter that has "come out". Its focus is cultural, but the film also includes information on suicide and homeless statistics. The second, produced by Ruth Villasenor, a Native Filmmaker from Oakland, is mainly interviews with local people regarding the hostility and hate they experienced during the struggle around Proposition 8. The film will be followed by a discussion led by Sean Cahill, C.A.R.E., and Ruth Villasenor. NEA, Alameda's new Charter School is providing their space at Longfellow for the screening. She also thanked President Wasko for providing the projector for the event. AMCCC plans to make copies of all of the films they show available for the public to view at the Center.

Discussion: A brief discussion ensued, where it was agreed that this co-sponsorship is consistent with the mission of the board and ATAH in promoting tolerance.

M/S (Villareal/Soglin) that SSHRB, via its workgroup ATAH, co-sponsor the screening of the two films ("Anyone and Everyone" and "Traditional Indigenous Values") with the AMCC on October 16th.
Unanimous

3-C **WORKGROUP PROGRESS REPORTS**

- *Alamedans Together Against Hate - Villareal*

ATAH will meet with Chief Tibbet regarding plans to partner with APD to discuss a potential Community Forum with the topic being Racial Profiling

- *Assessment and Awareness Workgroup - Nielsen*

Member Nielsen was absent and no report was presented by the workgroup.

- *Family Services Workgroup - Wasko*

There is nothing to report at this time.

- Sister City Workgroup - Wasko

Members of the new Alameda Sister City Association (ASCA) will participate in the Oakland Flag-raising ceremony this year on October 1, and plan to have one in Alameda next year. There is also a dinner in celebration of China's Independence this Sunday. The Mayor and Vice-mayor have been invited. We have been informed that a delegation from China plans to come to Alameda in late November or early December. They would bring an exhibit of Chinese Art. Member Nielsen has received a request from her Franklin School pen pal project contact in China for students / Alamedans to create and send artwork to China using a "China on my mind" theme. Clarity is needed on the type of art being requested and an interpretation of "China on my mind". The ASCA by-laws are complete and being reviewed by a pro-bono lawyer, who will send the by-laws and Articles of Incorporation to the State.

- Resource-Sharing Workgroup - Biggs

The workgroup did not meet this month, but has been working with the ACCYF and attending meetings regard the Child and Youth Development Survey. They are considering possibly meeting Mastick staff and other providers to see where SSHRB might gather additional data beyond services for children and youth.

4. **BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS, NON-AGENDA**

President Wasko called the Family Violence Law Center and they do not yet have firm plans for their events in October. She been receiving many calls from Alameda organizations interested in participating in FVLC events once they are announced. Their main event will be in Oakland, but they hope to also have an event in Alameda. She also invited everyone to a holiday party at her house on December 4th, the day after our Nov/Dec SSHRB meeting.

Member Soglin informed the board that he will be joining the AIA board, and had already had discussions with President Wasko and staff regarding the conflict of interest regarding review and approval of CDBG recommendations. It was determined that he would be the only conflicted board member, leaving six members (well above a quorum) to review the recommendations.

Member Biggs announced APC receiving a \$625,000 grant (over 3 years), which will create 20-25 permanent positions in their social enterprises. Other anticipated grants, including \$200,000 SSA / stimulus funding, will bring the total amount to nearly \$1,000,000.

Staff shared that the A.C. Transit community meeting at Independence on September 12, drew around 150 participants. Staff has participant comment sheets available for those that would like to see them. Changes to bus service on the West End, was the primary concern voiced by participants. Staff announced the date for the next ASC meeting, and explained the preference to not notice these meetings if possible. Members agreed to check in with staff in an effort to make this work.

6. **ADJOURNMENT** - M/S to adjourn at 8:40 (Biggs/Soglin) Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Franz
Community Development Coordinator

